

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND

Annual Report

of the

**PRINCIPAL SCHOOL
MEDICAL OFFICER**

JAMES MACLACHLAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER, 1956

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For the Year ended **1**DECEMBER, 1956

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To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

It is with pleasure that I submit the Annual Report on the work of the School Health Service for the year 1956.

The work for the year was undertaken for the most part under the direction of my predecessor, Dr. A. S. Hebblethwaite, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., who had served the Authority with distinction for 29 years prior to his retirement in September, 1956. He took with him the good wishes of the Committee and of all members of the staff.

A number of other notable staff changes occurred and all new members of the staff are most enthusiastic and helpful.

During the year the new poliomyelitis vaccine sponsored by the Ministry of Health was offered to a limited number of school-children. In view of the large waiting list for this eagerly-sought preventive service it is hoped that larger supplies of the vaccine will become available.

The retirement of the Speech Therapist in August left a gap in our services which we have so far been unable to fill. As the problem of speech defects is fairly extensive and the supply of Therapists extremely limited, we shall be fortunate in securing a replacement at an early date.

Once again the School Dental Surgeons carried out their work on the basis of one dentist per 6,000 children, which makes for great difficulty in practising preventive dentistry. Dental facilities were, however, greatly improved and extended with the opening, towards the end of the year, of new dental clinics at the Villette Road Clinic and at the new Alderman Jack Cohen Health Centre.

The health of the children was satisfactory throughout the year and their good general physique was maintained.

I wish to express to members of the School Health and Welfare Sub-Committee my thanks for the interest and support they have shown in the year's work. I extend my gratitude to the Director of Education, Mr. William Thompson, M.Ed., B.Sc., J.P., who has contributed to this report, and to his staff for their co-operation; and I am indebted to my medical, dental, nursing, and clerical staff for their high standard of work and their willing help at all times.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES MACLACHLAN,
Principal School Medical Officer.

Staff

Principal School Medical Officer :

J. MACLACHLAN, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Senior School Medical Officer :

JESSIE R. WATSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers :

MARION L. BAINBRIDGE, M.B., CH.B. (Part-time).

SYBIL A. B. WARD, M.B., B.S.

EDITH P. GILBERTSON, M.B., B.S.

JAMES PEACOCK, L.R.C.P. & S.

Principal School Dental Officer :

W. J. PROUD, L.D.S.

School Dental Officers :

JOYCE FRASE, L.D.S.

PETER W. GIBSON, L.D.S.

EILEEN A. SUFFIELD, L.D.S.

JOAN MASON, L.D.S.

Speech Therapist :

Assistant Speech Therapist :

Posts vacant.

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

GERTRUDE B. LEIGH, M.B., CH.B. (Part-time).

Organisers of Physical Education :

Miss P. M. PETERS.

Miss A. GRAY (Assistant).

Mr. P. J. GILLESPIE.

School Nurses :

Mrs. D. WILKINSON.	Miss F. KEAVENY.
Mrs. A. FAIRCLOUGH.	Mrs. C. CHARLTON.
Mrs. M. DONKIN.	Miss D. ROBSON.
Mrs. D. McHUGH.	Miss E. BIGLAND.
Mrs. V. DOWNEY.	Mrs. L. PIGG.
Miss M. McCROSSAN.	Miss E. ROBINSON.
Mrs. A. CHEAVINS.	

Clerks :

Mrs. D. DRAPER (Sen. Clerk).	Miss M. HENLEY.
Miss M. I. THOMPSON.	Miss M. GRAY.
Miss E. BELL.	Miss M. ATKINSON.

Dental Attendants :

Miss J. JOHNSON.	Miss J. BROWN.
Miss L. HALLIDAY.	Miss S. O'NEILL.
Miss E. CLEMENT.	

Bathing Attendants :

Mrs. N. VOSPER.	Mrs. M. RUTHERFORD.
Mrs. I. HUTCHINSON.	



Child Guidance Clinic

Psychiatrist :

L. W. ROBINSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.M. (Part-time).

Pædiatrician :

Miss J. R. WATSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Psychiatric Social Worker :

Post vacant.

Educational Psychologist :

Miss I. R. STIRLING, M.A.
Post-graduate Diploma—Social Science. Diploma Mental Health.

Clerks :

Miss L. M. HAMMOND.	Miss P. M. McCONNELL.
Miss M. DAVISON.	

Medical Inspection

The Medical Officer of Health is also Principal School Medical Officer, thus ensuring co-ordination of the School Health and General Public Health Services. The records from the Maternity and Child Welfare Department are transferred to the School Health Service when the child commences school, and similarly such medical records are available on request to medical practitioners when the child leaves school, the purpose being continuity of medical supervision.

The average number of children on the school register during the year was 32,500. The total number of children examined by the School Medical Officers for the year was 9,221, compared with 9,338 in the previous year, and for Dental Officers 19,272, compared with 13,284 for the previous year.

The medical inspection of the following classes was carried out :—

- (a) Pupils admitted for the first time to a maintained school.
- (b) Pupils in the last year of attendance at a maintained primary school.
- (c) Pupils in the last year of attendance at a maintained secondary school.
- (d) Routine inspections of pupils attending nursery and special schools, senior pupils at grammar and technical schools.
- (e) Pupils examined at the request of head teachers, school nurses, and parents, or pupils for ascertainment as handicapped pupils, or pupils required for further observation before or after treatment.

Prior to medical inspection, the school is visited by the School Nurse who weighs and measures the children and tests the vision of the seven to eight year olds and upwards. At the actual inspection both Medical Officer and School Nurse attend and parents are invited to be present.

PHYSICAL STATE.

Nutrition and Cleanliness.

Physical State.

The heights and weights, as ascertained at school medical inspection, of various age groups of school-children, will be included in next year's annual report.

NUTRITION AND CLEANLINESS.

Nutrition.

Of the total number of children inspected during the year, namely, 9,221, 8,863 were classified as satisfactory, this is equal to 96·12 per cent., and 358 were classified as unsatisfactory, a percentage of 3·88.

The following table shows the complete classification for the years 1955 and 1956.

	No. of Pupils	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Year 1955 ..	9,338	6,463	69·21	2,427	25·99	448	4·79

	No. of Pupils	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No.	%	No.	%
Year 1956	9,221	8,863	96·12	358	3·88

Cleanliness.

During the year 30,057 children were examined for cleanliness in schools, and of these only 9·89 per cent. were found unclean. This shows a decrease compared with the year 1955, when 12·33 per cent. were similarly declared unclean.

NURSERIES, SPECIAL SCHOOLS, AND SCHOOL CLINICS.

Nursery Schools.

GEORGE STREET NURSERY has continued to take children between the ages of two and five years. During the year 37 children have been admitted and 34 children discharged.

ST. COLUMBA'S C. OF E. NURSERY accommodates children between the ages of three and five years, and during the year 27 children have been admitted and 17 children discharged.

HAVELOCK NURSERY has continued to take children between the ages of three and five years, and during the year 73 children were admitted and 29 children discharged.

Special Schools.

FORDHALL DAY SCHOOL. There are at present 197 educationally sub-normal children in attendance, with 43 children on the waiting list.

MILTON HALL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL. Forty educationally sub-normal boys have been in residence at this school throughout the year, and they have benefited greatly by their environment.

BARBARA PRIESTMAN SCHOOL. Provision for the education of partially blind, deaf and dumb, and semi-deaf children is made at this Special Day School. There are 52 children in attendance at this school.

Provision for the education of blind children is made at Residential Schools. There are seven children in attendance at such schools.

The OAKWOOD RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL, CROFT SPA, near Darlington, accommodates 20 delicate children between the ages of two and seven years. During the year 56 children were admitted and 59 children discharged.

THORNFIELD OPEN-AIR DAY SCHOOL. Dr. J. PEACOCK reports :—

“ This school has remained full throughout the year. Compared with last year more pupils have been discharged back to their previous schools on health recovery, and the waiting list has been reduced.

Admissions during the year ....	....	....	27
Discharged back to previous schools on health recovery ....	....	....	18
Leavers during the year ....	....	....	8
Waiting list ....	....	....	9

Inclement weather conditions caused a slight increase in the number of respiratory conditions, and the good work of Nurse Donkin's class for remedial breathing exercises and postural drainage of the lungs continues.

The Ultra-violet Ray Clinic remains invaluable for pupils who are suffering from varying degrees of malnutrition and debility, and these courses, held twice weekly, have continued to be well attended.

The number of pupils in attendance at the end of the year was grouped as follows :—

Cardiac Diseases ....	....	....	10
Nervous System ....	....	....	22
Respiratory System ....	....	....	54
Bone Diseases ....	....	....	4
Others ....	....	....	28 ”

SCHOOL CLINICS.

As requested by the Ministry, the following information gives the location of the School Clinics, and the sessions held at each :—

HYLTON ROAD BRANCH CLINIC. This clinic serves the west area and is situated at No. 44, Hylton Road. Sessions are held every morning and Tuesday and Friday afternoons for the treatment of minor ailments, when a School Nurse is in attendance. A School Medical Officer is in attendance on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings. Dental treatment is also carried out at this clinic. Sessions are held every morning and afternoon.

VILLETTE ROAD BRANCH CLINIC. This clinic serves the south area for the treatment of minor ailments. Sessions are held every afternoon, when a School Nurse is in attendance. A Dental Department was opened at this clinic in October, sessions being held mornings and afternoons.

SOUTHWICK BRANCH CLINIC. This clinic, for the treatment of minor ailments, serves the north area, and is situated at No. 9, The Terrace, Southwick. Sessions are held every morning and Monday afternoon, when a School Nurse is in attendance. A School Medical Officer attends on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Dental treatment is also carried out at this clinic. Sessions are held mornings and afternoons. Ultra-violet Ray treatment is given at this clinic on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

HENDON CLINIC. This clinic serves the east area for the treatment of minor ailments, and is situated in Smyrna Place, Hendon. A School Nurse is in attendance every morning and Monday afternoon. This is also a Cleansing Clinic and two bathing attendants are in attendance every morning and afternoon.

THORNEY CLOSE CLINIC. This clinic is held in the 'Girls' Department of Thorney Close School, and serves the outlying estates in the west area. Sessions, for the treatment of minor ailments, are held every morning, when a School Nurse is in attendance. A School Medical Officer is in attendance on Thursday mornings.

CENTRAL CLINIC. This clinic is situated at No. 15, John Street. Special cases only are seen at this clinic, by appointment, e.g., ophthalmic cases, educationally sub-normal, &c. Infra-red Ray treatment is given on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Dental treatment is also given at this clinic. Sessions being held every morning and afternoon.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC. This clinic is situated at No. 23, Mowbray Road, where cases are seen by appointment.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT.

Ophthalmic Clinic.

Miss Leigh, Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon, visits the Central Clinic six sessions weekly.

1,562 children were refracted, and glasses were prescribed for 1,337 of these. Children attending the Barbara Priestman School for the partially blind are examined yearly by Miss Leigh.

The Ophthalmic Nurse has carried out 934 re-examinations, six months after glasses have been prescribed.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

Specialists have continued during the year to see orthopaedic cases submitted to them at the Sunderland Orthopaedic and Accident Hospital. Eighteen such children were referred for advice and treatment.

Ultra-violet Ray and Infra-red Ray Treatment.

Two clinics are held twice weekly for Ultra-violet Ray Therapy, one at Southwick and one at Thornfield Open-air School. During the year 247 children (111 at Southwick and 136 at Thornfield) have made 3,203 attendances.

Most of the children who showed considerable improvement after a course of treatment were suffering from varying degrees of malnutrition, debility, anaemia, &c.

Infra-red Ray Therapy is given at the Central Clinic twice weekly ; 38 children made 784 attendances during the year. Of the 17 children who received this form of treatment for enuresis, 12 were cured and five improved.

Twenty-one children were treated for rheumatic conditions and one for neuritis ; 19 children were cured and two improved.

Speech Therapy.

The following table shows the number of cases dealt with up to the end of August :—

Number of patients treated	....	....	138
Number of patients discharged	....	....	49
Number of patients on supervision (after treatment)	....	....	49
Number of patients on supervision (not receiving treatment)	....	....	2
Number of patients referred	....	....	31
Number of patients awaiting treatment after interviews	....	....	36
Number of patients awaiting interview	....	....	64

Cleansing Station.

Arrangements for the examination and cleansing of infested pupils, also the treatment of scabies, is carried out at Smyrna Place Clinic, and the following table shows the number of cases and attendances paid during the year :—

SCHOOL-CHILDREN—

Scabies	....	....	....	53 cases paid 347 visits.
Eczema Capitis	....	....	....	24 cases paid 262 visits.
Pediculus Capitis	....	....	....	324 cases paid 2,442 visits.

ADULTS—

Scabies	....	....	....	13 cases paid 32 visits.
Cleansing	....	....	....	59 cases paid 151 visits.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Cases of infectious diseases are notified to the Medical Officer of Health. Details of certain of these cases are sent to the Education Department to ensure that contacts are excluded from school until free from infection.

The exclusion period is that adopted by the Ministry of Education.

The numbers of notifiable diseases occurring in school-children during the year were as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	....	....	....	....	....	84
Measles	....	....	....	....	....	56
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	44
Poliomyelitis	....	....	....	....	....	7
Dysentery	....	....	....	....	....	7
Food Poisoning	....	....	....	....	....	7
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	....	....	....	....	....	20
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	....	....	....	....	....	5

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Eighty-four children of school age received complete protective doses, compared with 124 in the previous year ; 19 children attended for one dose only, compared with 36 in the previous year ; and 109 children failed to attend.

After five years of protection it is considered necessary to give an additional inoculation in order to prolong the protection. During the year 275 of these injections were administered, compared with 378 in 1955.

B.C.G. Vaccination.

The scheme for B.C.G. vaccination of selected groups of school-children, initiated in 1954, was continued during the year.

The following table gives details of B.C.G. vaccination during the year :—

- 1,780 children were Mantoux tested.
- 1,223 children were found to have a negative reaction and were given B.C.G. vaccination.
- 450 children were found to be Mantoux positive.
- 26 children were found to be doubtful.
- 684 children attended Mass Radiography Unit for X-ray (this includes a number of cases from the year 1955). One child was found to have active pulmonary tuberculosis.
- 514 household contacts attended Mass Radiography Unit for X-ray. Two cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered.

Two special Mass X-ray surveys of schools were carried out following the discovery of infectious cases in the schools, namely :—

ST. PATRICK'S R.C.—170 children ; 8 staff.

TRAINING COLLEGE—165 students ; 13 staff.

No cases of active tuberculosis were discovered following these investigations.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

This new preventive service commenced during the year. A limited number of children born between 1947 and 1954, and whose parents consented to their vaccination, was eligible to receive the vaccine. During the year 42 children were vaccinated against poliomyelitis as follows :—

- 39 children (12 boys and 27 girls) received complete protective doses.
- 3 children (1 boy and 2 girls) received one dose only.

DENTAL SERVICE.

The following table shows the number of children inspected and treated during the year, as compared with the preceding year :—

			Number Inspected		Number Treated
1955	....	....	13,284	.....	9,971
1956	....	....	19,272	.....	9,792

Mr. PROUD, Principal School Dental Officer, reports as follows :—

“ Attendances by pupils for treatment were well maintained during the year, and the staff continued its uphill task of attempting to cope with the ever-increasing need for dental treatment. The staffing position remained the same numerically as in the previous year, and efforts to attract to the service additional full-time dental officers were not successful. The school population is approximately 30,000, giving a proportion of one dentist to 6,000 children, compared with the recommended ratio of one officer to 3,000 children. Under these unfavourable conditions adequate treatment is possible for only a proportion of the total needing attention.

The addition of a dental department to the Villette Road Clinic was completed during the year, and treatment of patients living in the surrounding area was commenced in October. Towards the end of the year, one surgery of the dental suite at the new Alderman Jack Cohen Health Centre was taken over by the Education Committee and treatment was provided for children attending schools in the Springwell and Thorney Close districts. The establishment of a school dental clinic eases considerably the burden for parents living in these areas both in the matter of distance and in the cost of transport, and the nearness of the new clinic to their homes should help to ensure the regular attendance of children who have to make multiple visits for treatment. Many of these children have in the past been deterred from attending regularly owing to the distance between their homes and the Central Clinic. The Health Centre also provides a laboratory service staffed by a full-time technician and all mechanical work, including orthodontic appliances, previously done by a private technician, is now completed at the Centre.

Once again it is a saddening duty to report a steady worsening of the dental condition of pupils attending the schools of the Borough, and in spite of advice given very few parents show much awareness of their responsibility for seeing that their children practice the rules of oral hygiene.

Orthodontic treatment is being gradually extended. This important branch of dentistry continues to be very much in demand, and in addition to those children who are selected at school inspection for orthodontic treatment, there is a steady stream of requests from parents who make direct application to the clinics for orthodontic appointments. On the whole children receiving orthodontic treatment make excellent patients, and only in very few cases is treatment discontinued owing to lack of co-operation. Approximately five sessions weekly are devoted to orthodontics, but, unfortunately, the number of children with misplaced teeth is so large that the number treated is by comparison very small. Details of treatment given during the year appear in Table V.

Arrangements, which will come into force early next year, have been made for the more complex type of case to be referred to the specialist orthodontic clinic to be held at the new dental department of the General Hospital.”

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

The ascertainment of Handicapped Pupils was continued, and the following table gives details of pupils ascertained and placed during the year in Special Schools :—

Year 1956	Blind and Partially Sighted	Deaf and Partially Deaf	Delicate	Physically Handicapped	Educationally Sub-normal	Maladjusted	Epileptic
Ascertained as Requiring Education at Special Schools	4	3	22	9	48	2	2
Placed in Special Schools	4	3	29	9	59	....	1

Number of children reported during the year under the Education Act, 1944 :—

(a) Section 57 (3)	....	....	....	....	8
(b) Section 57 (4)	....	....	....	....	—
(c) Section 57 (5)	....	....	....	....	—

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICE.

The Psychological Service has two distinct departments :—

- (1) THE CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC, which deals with children who are showing problems of personality, behaviour, or learning.
- (2) PSYCHOLOGICAL WORK IN THE SCHOOLS, which deals with testing schemes and the examination and treatment of the dull and backward children.

THE CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.

The shortage of staff has been the main problem during the year, and in June, when Dr. Hinds left, it looked as if the work would need to come to a halt. Dr. Hinds' going was a very great loss to the clinic due very largely to his enthusiasm and willingness to take extra cases. During the past 10 years the clinic extended its influence especially in the courts. Dr. Hinds is now Child Psychiatrist in Devon County where he always wanted to reside. The Psychiatrist is in charge of treatment, and the type is largely determined by the theories of psychotherapy held by him, though in a real team there develops a mutual adjustment. The change of Psychiatrist is therefore a major crisis. The clinic was fortunate in obtaining the services of Dr. Robinson, who had worked with Dr. Cuthbert, who was with the clinic from 1940 to 1945. He was, therefore, no stranger to the methods used, and has settled in so quickly it is difficult to

believe that he has only been here six months. The children take to him at once, and this is an important factor as the child's co-operation is the first essential for success.

Throughout the year the clinic has been without one Psychiatric Social Worker. There is a great reluctance on the part of Clinicians to work in the north-east.

Dr. Robinson has been impressed by the number of court cases seen at the clinic, 42 boys and 29 girls, especially by the high proportion of girls. In a survey in a recent Textbook of Psychiatry, it is stated that the usual proportion of girls to boys in the Juvenile Court is about 1.5, and that only half the number of girls are referred to the clinics. The reason advanced for this difference which contrasts with the referrals of adults where as many women as men are seen, is that behaviour difficulties in girls tend to be more passive and less aggressive than in boys and are thus more easily tolerated by society. Among the girls seen at the clinic, however, the behaviour disorders were so severe that placement in Approved Schools or other Institutions was required in a higher proportion than with the boys. The probable explanation of this may be that court cases are seen from a wide area, and only the most disturbed girls and those with adverse home environments were being referred to court and clinic.

Mr. McKie has given invaluable service in the educational examination of the child who, though often of superior or very superior intelligence, fails at school, and in an effort to discover the cause of the lack of concentration or so-called "laziness." Most of the children go to the remedial centre where the work is supervised by Mr. McKie and carried on by an experienced teacher. (See following Report).

The mother's clinic continues to flourish. Apart from the treatment of enuresis, for which it was initially started, it has been developed, owing to shortage of staff, into the means of keeping in touch with cases who have finished treatment or are waiting for it. The fact that mothers may come any Thursday afternoon without appointment gives many mothers a feeling of security they would otherwise lack.

Throughout the year there have been the usual demonstrations to all kinds of students—doctors training to be Medical Officers of Health and the nurses from the Children's Hospital were two new groups. This work cannot be extended until there is more staff, as giving a demonstration means either stopping the testing or the visiting.

The clinic was represented by one member of the team at the Inter-clinic Meeting in London, but for the second year running was not represented at the British Psychological Meeting. These meetings are not conferences but refresher courses, and it is to be hoped that attendance will be possible next year, as isolation from workers in the same field is one of the difficulties of getting recruits for this area.

Numbers.

Carried forward unexamined from 1955....	....	84
Referred during 1956	....	287
Re-referred from previous years	....	15
		<hr/> 386 <hr/>
New cases seen	....	271
Re-referred cases seen	....	15
Otherwise dealt with	....	36
Carried forward unexamined to 1956	....	64
		<hr/> 386 <hr/>

Diagnostic Service.

	GIRLS	BOYS	TOTAL
Medical and Social Advice	22	8	30
Educational Advice....	17	20	37
Placement	28	14	42
Transferred to—			
School Medical Clinics	9	3	12
Remedial Centre	12	3	15
Other Clinics and Private Doctors	6	5	11
Referred for Statutory Examination	4	9	13
Incomplete Examination	2	—	2
Under Investigation	3	2	5
	<hr/> 103	<hr/> 64	<hr/> 167 <hr/>

Full Service.

	GIRLS	BOYS	TOTAL
Closed—Improved	51	29	80
„ Unadjusted	1	1	2
„ Unable to attend	9	5	14
„ Placement	12	3	15
„ Transferred to other Clinics	7	4	11
„ Remedial Coaching Centre	3	1	4
„ Advice	8	2	10
Carried forward to 1957	61	17	78
	<hr/> 152	<hr/> 62	<hr/> 214 <hr/>

REPORT OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL WORK IN SCHOOLS.

The psychological service in schools as distinct from the clinic deals with the various types of children who do not easily fall into the educational system and in devising methods of treatment to meet their needs. The service is directed by a team consisting of Mr. Bridge (Deputy Director of Education), Mr. McKie (General Assistant to the Director of Education) and the Educational Psychologist.

The children fall into three classes :—

- (1) The sub-normal.
- (2) The dull and backward.
- (3) The bright, retarded, or emotionally disturbed child.

All children of 7+ are given the Moray House Picture Test, and all children of 11+ are given the Allocation Examination. Normally the children who fall below a certain standard are individually examined by the Psychologist and recommended for transfer to a school for Educationally Sub-normal Children, coaching in an opportunity class in the Secondary Modern School, the Remedial Coaching Centre, or referred to the Child Guidance Clinic for treatment. As Miss Stirling has not yet been relieved of her duties as Psychiatric Social Worker, and has to carry out the psychologist's work in the clinic, doing all the testing, and being responsible for the administration, she has not been able to do the routine testing in the schools.

The sub-normal child is now dealt with by the School Medical Service, and the children either (1) deemed ineducable and sent to the centre in Murton Street, (2) sent to Fordhall, or (3) sent to Milton Hall Residential School. Unfortunately, owing to shortage of accommodation, many remain in the ordinary school.

The dull and backward child. Mr. McKie has individually examined the children after the 11+ examination in schools where attendance at an opportunity class was possible, and reports :—

“Four classes were again organised in Secondary Modern Schools of the Borough attended by 55 pupils (27 boys and 28 girls). The scheme has repeated its initial success, and 20 boys and 17 girls whose ‘reading ages’ increased up to, and beyond, $10\frac{1}{2}$ were promoted.

The ‘follow-up’ procedure reports that the promoted pupils are holding their own in both academic and practical work with improved personal standards and attitudes, sometimes beyond all recognition.

A total of 111 pupils out of the 136 treated have now been ‘adjusted’ for more adequate work in Secondary Modern Schools.”

The bright and retarded child has been examined at the Child Guidance Clinic and then passed on to the Remedial Coaching Centre. The children have been attending for one session a week, when, in groups of five, they have had individual coaching for their reading and arithmetic. A set scheme of work has been followed through, the children working at their own pace. This has proved very successful. It was discovered that no benefit was gained by having the children for two sessions per week. The number of new children receiving treatment at the centre this year has dropped considerably, but there have been very few vacancies in any of the classes during this past year.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (including Special Schools).

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Age Groups inspected and number of Pupils examined in each :—

Entrants	....	....	....	....	....	3,556
Second Age Group			....	...	....	2,738
Third Age Group	....	....	....	....	....	2,577
Total	....	....	....	....	....	8,871
Additional Periodic Inspections				...	....	350
Grand Total		....	...	....	....	9,221

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	...	.	1,459
Number of Re-inspections	....	...	—
			<hr/>
Total	....	....	1,459
			<hr/>

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Group (1)	For Defective Vision (excluding Squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table III (3)	Total individual Pupils (4)
Entrants	1	342	343
Second Age Group	160	180	335
Third Age Group	190	102	287
Total	351	624	965
Additional Periodic Inspections	10	31	41
GRAND TOTAL	361	655	1,006

D.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED IN THE AGE GROUPS RECORDED IN TABLE IA.

Age Groups Inspected (1)	No. of Pupils In-spected (2)	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No. (3)	% (4)	No. (5)	% (6)
Entrants	3,556	3,442	96.79	114	3.206
Second Age Group	2,738	2,632	96.13	106	3.87
Third Age Group	2,577	2,494	96.78	83	3.22
Additional Periodic Inspections	350	295	84.29	55	15.71
Total	9,221	8,863	96.12	358	3.88

TABLE II.
INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

(i)	Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by the School Nurses	30,057
(ii)	Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	2,974
(iii)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom Cleansing Notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	851
(iv)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom Cleansing Orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	—

TABLE III.

RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1956.

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease (2)	A.—PERIODIC INSPECTIONS				TOTAL (including all other age groups inspected)		B.— SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		Entrants		Leavers		Requiring treatment (7)	Requiring observation (8)	Entrants	
		Requiring treatment (3)	Requiring observation (4)	Requiring treatment (5)	Requiring observation (6)			Requiring treatment (9)	Requiring observation (10)
(1)									
4	Skin	46	8	45	3	135	17	19	6
5	Eyes—(a) Vision	11	3	184	8	351	63	50	52
	(b) Squint	63	30	1	2	71	46	30	38
	(c) Other	16	6	1	2	31	12	6	3
6	Ears—(a) Hearing	2	14	1	—	6	17	9	6
	(b) Otitis Media	4	11	7	—	21	16	4	4
	(c) Other	4	4	—	—	12	13	6	8
7	Nose and Throat	83	141	18	15	170	243	60	87
8	Speech	9	31	1	1	12	43	16	26
9	Cervical Glands	1	17	—	2	2	20	1	4
10	Heart and Circulation	14	71	15	20	52	130	25	41
11	Lungs	23	90	11	11	55	126	43	60
12	Developmental—(a) Hernia	3	9	—	1	6	10	1	3
	(b) Other	2	9	2	4	5	24	1	3
13	Orthopaedic—(a) Posture	1	15	1	11	5	34	2	10
	(b) Flat Foot	3	3	—	19	11	37	3	2
	(c) Other	14	5	2	10	28	24	7	12
14	Nervous System—(a) Epilepsy	3	8	1	—	4	12	7	10
	(b) Other	2	7	1	2	6	13	4	3
15	Psychological—(a) Development	—	—	—	—	4	4	3	2
	(b) Stability	38	40	1	5	50	56	13	11
16	Abdomen	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17	Other....	64	12	9	9	127	52	41	25

TABLE IV.

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

(including Special Schools).

GROUP I.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION, AND SQUINT.

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	649
Errors of refraction (including squint)	1,562
Total	<u>2,211</u>
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	1,337

GROUP II.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE, AND THROAT.

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Received operative treatment	No record
(All operative treatment carried out by Regional Hospital Board)	
Received other forms of treatment	444
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids—	
(a) In 1956—By the Authority	Nil
Otherwise	16
(b) In previous years—By the Authority	Nil
Otherwise	18

GROUP III.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

Number of pupils known to have been treated at
clinics or out-patient departments Figure not
available.

18 cases were referred to Orthopaedic Specialists.

GROUP 4.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanness, for which see Table II).

						Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year by the Authority
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	....	....	....	....		1
(ii) Body	....	....	....	....		12
Scabies	....	....	....	....	....	53
Impetigo	....	....	....	....	....	239
Other Skin Diseases	....	....	....	....		995
Total	....	....	....	....		<u>1,300</u>

GROUP V.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT.

Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics under arrangements made by the Authority	....	....	....	....	....	386
Local Authority's cases	....	....	....	....	223	
Other Local Authorities	....	....	....	....	163	

GROUP VI.—SPEECH THERAPY.

Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapist under arrangements made by the Authority....	138
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GROUP VII.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

(a) Number of cases of miscellaneous minor ailments treated by the Authority	3,993
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements		Nil
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination	....	1,223
(d) Other than (a), (b), and (c) above (specify)—		
1. Ultra-violet Ray	....	247
2. Infra-red Ray	....	38
Total (a)—(d)	....	<u>5,501</u>

TABLE V.
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT
CARRIED OUT BY THE
AUTHORITY.

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers—					
(a) At Periodic Inspections	....	....	....	....	12,677
(b) As Specials	....	....	....	....	6,595
Total (1)	....	....	....	....	<u>19,272</u>
(2) Number found to require treatment	....	....	....	....	14,911
(3) Number offered treatment	....	....	....	....	14,911
(4) Number actually treated	....	....	....	....	9,792
(5) Number of attendances made by pupils for treatment, including those recorded at heading 11 (h)					
11 (h)	....	....	....	....	16,153
(6) Half-days devoted to—					
Periodic Inspection	....	....	....	....	51
Treatment	....	....	....	....	2,270
Total (6)	....	....	....	....	<u>2,321</u>
(7) Fillings—					
Permanent Teeth	....	....	....	....	3,068
Temporary Teeth	....	....	....	....	338
Total (7)	....	....	....	....	<u>3,406</u>
(8) Number of Teeth filled—					
Permanent Teeth	....	....	....	....	2,879
Temporary Teeth	....	....	....	....	338
Total (8)	....	....	....	....	<u>3,217</u>
(9) Extractions—					
Permanent Teeth	....	....	....	....	3,444
Temporary Teeth	....	....	....	....	10,993
Total (9)	....	....	....	....	<u>14,437</u>
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction					
extraction	....	....	....	....	8,892

(11) Orthodontics—

(a) Cases commenced during the year	....	173
(b) Cases carried forward from previous year....		44
(c) Cases completed during the year	....	71
(d) Cases discontinued during the year	....	35
(e) Pupils treated with appliances	....	94
(f) Removable appliances fitted	....	102
(g) Fixed appliances fitted	....	Nil.
(h) Total attendances	....	1,567

(12) Number of pupils supplied with artificial dentures 103

(13) Other operations—

Permanent Teeth	....	1,319
Temporary Teeth	....	2,241
Total (13)....	....	<u>3,560</u>

TABLE VI.

INSPECTION WORK IN SCHOOLS.

Medical Officers.

	1955	1956
Number of pupils examined at Primary and Secondary Schools	8,995	8,871
Number of pupils examined at Special Schools	343	350

School Dental Officers.

Number of pupils inspected	13,284	19,272
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School Nurses.

Number of examinations for cleanliness....	31,015	30,057
Percentage of children found unclean	12.33%	9.89%
Number of houses visited for “following- up”	1,205	1,338
Number of visits to schools <i>re</i> infectious disease	35	42

TABLE VII.
WORK AT CLINICS.
Treatment.

Skin Department.

	1955		1956	
Number of cases treated	4,087	....	3,677	
	1955	1956		
Hylton Road Clinic	654	480		
Villette Road Clinic	508	409		
Southwick Clinic	1,000	1,088		
Fordhall Clinic	214	176		
Smyrna Place Clinic	871	887		
Thorney Close Clinic....	840	637		

Ophthalmic Department.

Number of children with defective vision examined by the Ophthalmic Specialist	1,491	....	1,562	
Number re-examined by School Nurse	767	....	934	
Number of such children examined at the Clinics	201	....	188	
	1955	1956		
Hylton Road Clinic	20	38		
Villette Road Clinic	51	24		
Southwick Clinic	81	77		
Fordhall Clinic	—	—		
Smyrna Place Clinic	13	—		
Thorney Close Clinic....	36	49		
Number of Eye Diseases treated	415	....	461	
	1955	1956		
Hylton Road Clinic	90	87		
Villette Road Clinic	62	52		
Southwick Clinic	84	105		
Fordhall Clinic	13	18		
Smyrna Place Clinic	81	82		
Thorney Close Clinic....	85	117		

Aural Department.

Number of minor ear defects seen at the Clinics	466	....	444	
	1955	1956		
Hylton Road Clinic	91	102		
Villette Road Clinic	47	38		
Southwick Clinic	66	91		
Fordhall Clinic	37	25		
Smyrna Place Clinic	79	81		
Thorney Close Clinic....	146	107		

Special Conditions.

	1955			1956		
Number of cases treated ....	....	....	1,819	....	1,569	
	1955	1956				
Hylton Road Clinic	535	458				
Villette Road Clinic	261	184				
Southwick Clinic	352	339				
Fordhall Clinic	71	44				
Smyrna Place Clinic	164	112				
Thorney Close Clinic....	436	432				

Dental Treatment.

Number of cases treated ....	....	....	9,971	....	9,792
Number of attendances ....	....	....	14,843	....	16,153

Cleansing Clinic.

Number of children who attended for treatment of Scabies, &c. ....	....	....	434	....	401
Number of attendances ....	....	....	3,267	....	3,051

Ultra-violet Ray Clinic.

Number of cases treated ....	....	....	214	....	247
Number of attendances ....	....	....	2,865	....	3,203

Infra-red Ray Clinic.

Number of cases treated ....	....	....	64	....	38
Number of attendances ....	....	....	1,195	....	784

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Number of cases immunised, one dose....			36	....	19
Number of cases immunised, two doses			124	....	84
Number of recurrent inoculations after five years ....	....	....	378	....	275
Number of attendances	662	462

TOTAL NUMBER OF ATTENDANCES AT THE ABOVE- NAMED CLINICS	73,508	69,897
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Physical Education

SUMMARY OF THE REPORTS OF THE ORGANISERS

A review of Physical Education indicates that, in general, progress has been maintained and that certain new ideas and experiments are developing satisfactorily.

The work in schools has benefited by the further supply of equipment. All requisitions were met, except in the case of portable gymnastic apparatus and plimsolls, where some cuts had to be made.

Athletics.

The Executive Committee of the Sunderland Schools' Athletic Association resolved that, as an experiment, there should be two athletic meetings, one for boys and one for girls. The desired result was obtained in that more than twice as many children were able to take part than in previous years.

School Sports.

This was a difficult season as the wet weather made so much rearrangement of the time-table necessary. In spite of this 72 sports days were held.

School Leavers' Course.

A Five-day Residential Course was held at the Bede College, Durham, in July for 50 boys and 50 girls, recommended by their head teachers, who were leaving Secondary Modern or Primary Schools in Sunderland.

The object of the course was to provide boys and girls with an opportunity to get to know more about a wide variety of sports and activities by taking part and by seeing films and demonstrations.

Sunderland Schools' Badminton Association.

Thirteen schools now have badminton as a properly-organised and continuously-practised activity.

Netball.

Four tournaments were held in which 101 teams took part.

Hockey.

The results from some of the schools where hockey is played have at last been encouraging. The girls, as the game has become established, have gained interest and do not now class hockey as second only to netball.

Tennis.

The season, the first during which girls from schools other than grammar schools and one modern school played tennis, was most successful.

Association Football.

During the 1955-56 season the Town Team reached the competition proper of the English Schools' Trophy. After playing a drawn game against Medway, Sunderland were defeated in the replay.

The 1956-57 season shows school football continuing to thrive with approximately 110 teams taking part.

Schools' Cricket.

Twenty-four senior and 27 junior teams competed in school cricket.

The Honorary Secretary, Schools' Cricket Association, states : "Pitches during the season showed a marked improvement and the artificial wickets proved to be of great value. It would help cricket immensely if at least two such wickets were available on each playing field."

Schools' Rugby.

Rugby is being played at Thorney Close Secondary Modern Boys' School, West Park Boys' School, Villiers Street Technical School, and Bede Boys' Grammar School, and also at St. Aidan's Grammar School and at Havelock Boys' School. The game was introduced at Havelock Boys' School in September, 1956, and very soon 40 boys were taking part in practices.

Swimming.

1,135 L.E.A. proficiency awards were made during 1956.

Sunderland Schools' Swimming Association continued to hold Life-Saving Classes, as a result of which many certificates and medallions were won.

Schools' Basket Ball.

The first Sunderland Schools' Basket Ball Tournament was held in March, 1956, at Bede School. Eight teams competed.

Provision of Facilities.

Mr. T. Taylor, H.M.I., and several organisers of Physical Education from the north-east area visited Sunderland to see, and to "try-out," the Universal Rubber Company artificial cricket pitches provided by Sunderland Education Authority. All concerned were agreed as to the value of these pitches in increasing safety and providing better opportunities for correct coaching of cricket.

Bede Condition Coefficient.

A good response was obtained from schools who were asked to assist in this investigation by weighing and measuring pupils and recording results.

The Bede Condition Coefficient is used in connection with the course for pupils who suffer from asthma, which is conducted at Bede Boys' Grammar School. A full report on this course was prepared by Mr. Prestwich, Bede School. The report included comments from Dr. G. Slade, School Medical Officer.

Work in connection with B.C.C. will be greatly helped by the co-operation given by Schools' Medical Officer, Dr. J. Peacock, who as successor to Dr. G. Slade, has taken interest in this work, particularly in the use of the coefficient in relation to the course for boys who suffer from asthma, taken at Bede Boys' Grammar School.

Several schools, including eight girls' schools, taking part in this experiment, have now been supplied with the mechanical calculators which are used to obtain the coefficient.

Dr. G. SLADE, School Medical Officer, comments :—

“ The extra physical training programme for asthma cases was started in June, 1954, under the supervision of the Physical Education Master at Bede Boys' Grammar School, and in the first place was confined to pupils of Bede Grammar School. I have been most interested in following up the clinical condition of the boys concerned, and although only two years have elapsed since it first started, it appears that there has been some improvement in the physical condition of the boys concerned, and results to date have been encouraging.

“ This experiment, with a small number of cases of asthma, would appear to be well worth while continuing, and future progress watched with interest.”

Sunderland Education Authority— Physical Education Coaching Series.

The film on the handspring is now complete. It is a sound film of about 400 feet in length and runs for approximately 15 minutes. It is now available for use in schools, and it is hoped that this film, with the addition of the commentary spoken by the Director of Education may be useful to teachers of Physical Education.

A copy of the boxing film-strip produced in Sunderland has been asked for by the Warwick Academy, Bermuda.

Copies of the productions, “ Physical Education—Boys ” and “ Suggestions on a Scheme of Work for Schoolboys,” have been forwarded, on request, to a school in St. Louis, U.S.A., and to a school in Bristol.

SUNDERLAND AND DISTRICT MEN'S PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION.

The following were arranged during 1956 :—

JANUARY.—Advanced Coaching Course in Athletics for Senior Coaches, Bede Boys' Grammar School.

MARCH.—Inter-Grammar School Basket Ball Tournament, Bede School. Ten Grammar Schools competed for the trophy.

MARCH.—Sunderland Inter-Schools' Basket Ball Tournament, Bede Grammar School.

MAY.—The second Annual Dance, held in Wetherall's Rooms.

JULY.—Athletic Meeting—Brigham Young University, U.S.A., v. selected Athletes from Northumberland and Durham.

Probably by far the most ambitious and successful venture of the Men's Association was the undertaking of the organisation of the above athletic meeting.

The American team included athletes of international standard, and the event attracted a record attendance of approximately 3,000 to the Bede School Athletic Track.

SEPTEMBER.—Mr. Munrow, Director of Physical Education, Birmingham University, visited Sunderland in September as guest of our Association and spoke on "The Physical and Education in Physical Education."

JUNE.—The Association sponsored the Inter-Town Basket Ball game between Sunderland and Newcastle Boys.

The groups (football, fencing, basket ball, badminton, Scottish dancing) continued to develop, and much progress was made.

Courses and Evening Classes.

Forty men teachers attended a Soccer Coaching Course at Bede School in May.

Open classes in gymnastics, fencing, and judo were held weekly. Classes in physical recreation were arranged for Doxford's apprentices and for Sunderland Y.M.C.A. each week. The Men's Association classes and activities continued and included soccer coaching and practice, fencing, Scottish dancing, basket ball, and badminton.

Open classes for women were held in keep-fit and dancing (three classes), Scottish dancing and Irish dancing, and group classes were held in keep-fit and dancing and square dancing.

The Youth Physical Education Course continued until Easter, 1956. The course had a strong gymnastic bias, although minor games were included and basket ball was developed very successfully.

Athletic Courses were held each week for youth, and also for schoolboys over 12½ years of age during the summer. Instruction was given by men teachers who volunteered to coach.

Provision of Milk and Meals

The following table shows the number of children who received the mid-day meal daily during the year :—

January	....	....	....	....	8,747
February	....	....	....	....	8,612
March	....	....	....	....	8,820
April	....	....	....	....	8,821
May	....	....	....	....	8,755
June	....	....	....	....	8,743
July	....	....	....	....	8,740
August	....	....	....	....	682 (Free Meals only)
September	....	....	....	....	8,722
October	....	....	....	....	8,906
November	....	....	....	....	9,013
December	....	....	....	....	8,767

During the holidays, Easter, Whitsuntide, Summer, and October, approximately 700 children were provided with free meals each day.

During the year the average attendance in maintained schools was 29,818, and an average of 27,774 bottles of milk (one-third pint) were consumed each day—a percentage of 93·1.

